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system having a production line that includes a combination weigher and a bagger and is capable of using image information for monitoring.

IN THE CLAIMS:

/   Claims 1, 3-10, and 13-15 have been amended as follows.

1. (Amended) A production management system, comprising:

a production line including a plurality of product processing apparatuses, said plurality of product processing apparatus having at least one of a combination weigher and bagger;

a network that connects said plurality of product processing apparatuses; and

a plurality of image-taking means for producing image information by taking images of operating conditions of said product processing apparatuses, said image-taking means provided at each of said product processing apparatuses;

wherein:

said network is capable of distributing the image information from said plurality of image-taking means.

3. (Amended) A production management system according to claim 1, further comprising

control means for controlling said product processing apparatuses based the on image information distributed by said network.

4. (Amended) A production management system according to claim 1, further comprising

warning means for issuing a warning, said warning means having reference image information and issuing a warning based on comparison between the image information and said reference image information.

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5. (Amended) A production management system according to claim 1, further comprising

storage means for storing said image information.

6. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses, comprising:

image-taking means for producing image information by taking images of operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses; and

storage means for storing image information obtained by said image-taking means.

7. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 6, wherein:

said storage means stores image information from said image-taking means, said image information relating to operating conditions of the product processes apparatuses taken at a plurality of locations.

8. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 6, wherein:

said storage means stores image information from said image-taking means, said image information relating to operating conditions of the product processes apparatuses being taken at different times.

9. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 6, further comprising

abnormality detection means for detecting abnormalities in the operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses.

10. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 9, further comprising

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display means for displaying said image information,

wherein:

when detection of abnormality information is received from said abnormality detection means, said display means displays image information of the location where an abnormality has occurred, said image information being taken from before and until after occurrence of said abnormality and stored in said storage means.

13. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 12, wherein:

said second storage means stores at least one of image information of operating conditions of the plurality of product processing apparatuses, image information of operating conditions taken from a plurality of locations at each product processing apparatus, and image information of operating conditions taken at different times.

14. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 11, further comprising

abnormality detection means for detecting abnormalities in the operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses.

15. (Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 14, further comprising

display means for displaying said image information, and

second storage means for storing said image information distributed by said image distribution device,

wherein:

when detection of abnormality information is received from said abnormality detection means, said display means displays image information of the location where an abnormality has occurred, said image information being taken from before and until after the occurrence of the abnormality and being stored in said second storage means.